

C. DUKES SCOTT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1401 Main Street, Suite 900  
Columbia, SC 29201



DAN E. ARNETT  
CHIEF OF STAFF

Phone: (803) 737-0800  
Fax: (803) 737-0801

[jnelson@regstaff.sc.gov](mailto:jnelson@regstaff.sc.gov)

*Jeffrey M. Nelson*  
*Counsel for ORS*

January 22, 2010

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Mr. Charles L.A. Terreni  
Chief Clerk/Administrator  
South Carolina Public Service Commission  
101 Executive Center Drive  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Application of the South Carolina Tariff Bureau, Inc. for a Rate Increase  
Docket No. 2009-41-T

Dear Mr. Terreni,

As stated in my last letter regarding this docket on January 6, 2010, this docket has now lingered at the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission") since January 27, 2009 when the South Carolina Tariff Bureau, Inc. ("SCTB") filed an application for a rate increase with the Commission. In March, April, and June 2009, and again on January 6, 2010, ORS has filed correspondence and briefs with the Commission detailing that it could not report a recommendation to the Commission due to the SCTB's members failure to cooperate with ORS Auditors requests for books and records needed to perform an impact study.

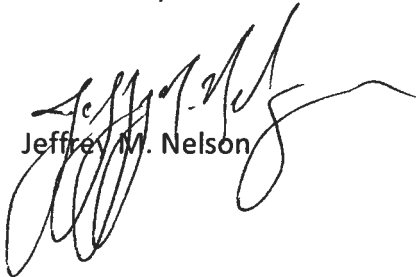
In my letter of January 6, 2010, I had informed the Commission that three of the six SCTB members selected for ORS' impact study had failed to comply with the SCTB's pledge to have its members provide the documents and records by December 31, 2009 for ORS to perform its impact study. Subsequently, on January 12, 2010, the SCTB filed a letter with the Commission stating that one of the six selected carriers was withdrawing from the SCTB and that it was attempting to gain the cooperation and compliance of the other members.

In the two weeks since ORS' report to the Commission of January 6, one of the selected SCTB members has in fact filed an individual tariff with the Commission and apparently resigned its membership in the SCTB. ORS has still, however, not received any documents or information from either of the remaining two SCTB members.

Due to the age of this Docket it would appear to benefit all parties if the Commission would simply dismiss the Application of the SCTB without prejudice and close the present docket. The ORS Audit Department must schedule inspections, audits, and studies several months in advance to accommodate the interests of all of the electric, gas, telecommunications, water and wastewater and transportation companies which this Agency is responsible for monitoring. ORS Auditors have already rescheduled the inspection and study of a sampling of SCTB members on at least three occasions over the past 12 months. Even if the information required to perform the impact study were provided to ORS tomorrow we would now be unable to conduct the study for approximately three months.

The SCTB should be allowed the opportunity to have a fair review of its request for what should be a relatively simple change to its tariff. The present docket, however, has become unnecessarily complicated and adversarial. Better communication by the SCTB with its members regarding future Applications and the need for their cooperation with ORS auditors could greatly expedite future filings by the SCTB with the Commission.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey M. Nelson', is written over the printed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

cc: Parties of Record